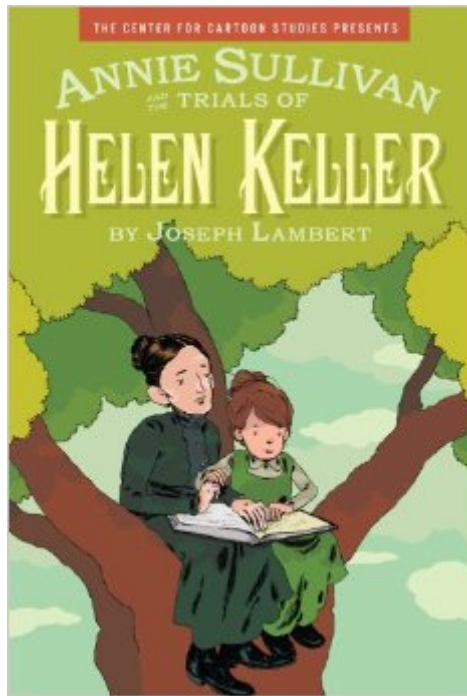


The book was found

Annie Sullivan And The Trials Of Helen Keller (Center For Cartoon Studies Presents)



Synopsis

Helen Keller lost her ability to see and hear before she turned two years old. But in her lifetime, she learned to ride horseback and dance the foxtrot. She graduated from Radcliffe. She became a world famous speaker and author. She befriended Mark Twain, Charlie Chaplin, and Alexander Graham Bell. And above all, she revolutionized public perception and treatment of the blind and the deaf. The catalyst for this remarkable life's journey was Annie Sullivan, a young woman who was herself visually impaired. Hired on as a tutor when Helen was six years old, Annie broke down the barriers between Helen and the wider world, becoming a fiercely devoted friend and lifelong companion in the process. In *Annie Sullivan and the Trials of Helen Keller*, author and illustrator Joseph Lambert examines the powerful bond between teacher and pupil, forged through the intense frustrations and revelations of Helen's early education. The result is an inspiring, emotional, and wholly original take on the story of these two great Americans.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (19 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

This is an amazing book with incredible illustrations. I love how it tells the story using both Annie Sullivan's letters and also visual interpretations of what Helen's experience may have been like.

That especially, the visual interpretation of Helen's experience, really struck a chord with me. It made me understand her in a way that I never had before. I think it is the magic of this kind of medium that can add something so special to a story I have known since I was a little girl.

Although I find Helen Keller as remarkable as anyone else, I'm always leery of anyone wanting me to read anything about her. I'm inspired plenty already, thank you very much, said the intolerable ironist. And I would never have considered picking this one up had I not been blown away by the excerpt in Best American Comics. I was moved by those pages and I was moved by the book. The moment where Helen discovers language is so thrilling I nearly wept. An excellent choice made by Lambert is to let us get to know Annie better---her backstory is arguably more tragic than Helen's---and to understand her spunk and drive and determination and fortitude. She is a true hero. Besides the characters and the story, one of the great successes of this volume is its means of representing Helen's aloneness in a blank world. The way those in the world intrudes into her space---how it threatens---builds empathy for Helen as much as any art could. Which is remarkable, given that comics would not have been an easy medium for Helen Keller to enjoy. Not that that would have stopped her.

My second grader was very interested in reading this book and learning about Helen Keller. It is written in a "comic book" style. However, half of the font (descriptions) are in cursive font, while the "bubbles" are in regular print - and she couldn't read it. Believe it or not, schools don't really teach "real" cursive any more. I was interested in the book enough to read it to her myself. Helen was an amazing woman. She was so determined to communicate with the world that she learned the alphabet and managed to express her thoughts, as well as finger spelling method. Helen wrote one story in her life (The Frost King) and was accused of plagiarism. Helen heard the original story as a child and could not understand how one could "own the words or stories". She never wrote any stories after that. Annie Sullivan and Helen Keller were not just teacher and student, but also life long friends. Reading this book lifts spirit, and makes you believe it's all possible and achievable. P.S. the cursive writing is taken from journals and letters Annie Sullivan (Helen's teacher) wrote in real life. This text was slightly edited to make it easier to understand.

This is an amazing graphic novel! In this story about Helen Keller's young life we are focusing more on her teacher, Annie Sullivan, and her backstory. The artwork in this book is well thought out. When we begin the book all passages that are from Helen's perspective are drawn with a black

background with a featureless childlike figure of a solid color as the main image of each box. When Helen meets Ann their perspectives are woven together, but it is clear to the reader which boxes represent Helen's point of view. And the more Helen learns and experiences, the more we see her self image begin to sharpen. Flipping between Helen's present and Annie's past we learn how Ann Sullivan spent her early years. With passages from Ann's own journals spread throughout the book, we are directly linked to the history behind this story. Recommended for grades 4-8

This book is magical, and it left me with a big smile on my face. I love the way Helen's black world is drawn, so you are never allowed to get distracted by the story and forget that that was her reality. It was so very moving. Although I have read several books about both Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan, I learned so much from this book. I love it when Annie stops "teaching" lessons so that real learning can take place. The wording is beautiful, the drawings fantastic. I was very impressed. Although I love illustrated novels, I did not buy this book for myself, I bought it for my 6th grade students, thinking that it was for children. I read it first and was blown away. It was just as good as any of my top favorite graphic novels. It is superbly written. What a fantastic author!

This is a great interpretation of a well-known story! The story of Helen Keller has been told time and time again through film, picture, and text, but this graphic novel breathes new life into Annie Sullivan and Helen Keller's stories. The illustrations allow for flexible movements between the past and present; something that is hard to accomplish through text alone. I was also taken by the artful way Lambert was able to portray Helen's confusion and realizations; it gave me a new understanding and appreciation of her. I have never been as taken by a telling of Helen's learning the word "water" as I was while reading this book. This book can be appreciated by readers as young as 8, and well into adulthood.

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